

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Egbert Classen et al  
Application Number: 10/582,246  
Filing Date: 06/09/2006  
Group Art Unit: 1792  
Examiner: Natasha N. Campbell  
Title: DISHWASHING MACHINE HAVING A DOSING  
DEVICE FOR ADDITIVES AND ASSOCIATED METHOD

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

This responds to the Office Action dated December 28, 2009, having a response due date of March 28, 2010. Please charge Deposit Account No. 502786 for any deficiency or overpayment.

Claims 18, 20-29 and 31-34 are pending. Reconsideration in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

At the outset, applicants respectfully object to the piecemeal examination style conducted by the examiner in relation to the above-identified application. In particular, the examiner has issued three Office Actions setting forth various objections and rejections. In particular, in the first Office Action, the claims were rejected based on Chan et al as the primary reference, the second Office Action rejected the claims based on Holmes et al as the primary reference, the and present rejection relies on Reichold et al as the primary reference. It was noted that Chan et al was cited in the first Office Action, Holmes et al in the second Office Action, and Reichold et al in the third Office Action.

Moreover, the present rejection based on Reichold in view of Graf et al is extremely similar to the earlier rejection in the first Office Action based on Chan et al in view of Graf et al. As explained in further detail below, applicants believe that the arguments regarding the Chan et